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ABSTRACT

This text provides a linguistic analysis of discourse register in English, Nukulaelae Tuvaluan, Korean, and Somali, using a multi-dimensional analytical framework and including sociocultural descriptions. Methodology included a description of the text corpora, linguistic features, and computational/statistical techniques used; theoretical issues relating to the selection and representativeness of texts and linguistic features observed are also discussed. Synchronic and diachronic patterns of variation comparison are summarized across the four languages. Striking similarities and differences confirm cross-linguistic universals of register variation in the four, widely differing languages. Patterns detected included co-occurrence among linguistic features, synchronic relations among registers within a language, and diachronic patterns of change within and among registers. Appendixes offer a grammatical description of linguistics features of Korean and Somali by native speakers. (Contains numerous references, figures, and tables.) (NAV)

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